

SAJCH in 2010

The *South African Journal of Child Health* is starting its fourth year of existence this year. The first three years were eventful and full of the usual surprises – and scary moments – of early childhood. Starting a new journal in the current plethora of both print and digital medical journals is certainly intimidating, but *SAJCH* has achieved significant milestones. We now have an established peer-reviewed medical journal in the field of paediatrics and child health – the first in South Africa. In addition, the journal is attracting both submissions and readers from beyond this country and even beyond the continent. Up to 25% of published articles are from authors working outside South Africa!

The achievements of the past few years would not have been possible without the editorial team, the reviewers who so kindly give of their time, and the authors who trust us with their work; to all I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude. In addition I would like to thank the SAMA staff members who saw the need for this journal and entrusted me with the task of founding and editing it. JP van Niekerk not only showed me the ropes but has been amazingly supportive, and Emma Buchanan and the production team make a manuscript read and look so much better than its original draft!

As our country looks forward to the many promises associated with the 2010 FIFA World Cup, I as current editor also have good news! It is with great excitement that I introduce the new editor of *SAJCH*, Professor Dankwart Wittenberg, an established clinician and respected academic. My interaction with Dankwart during his editing of the latest edition of the *Coovadia Textbook of Paediatrics* (which is reviewed in this issue) has left me with no doubt about his ability to help *SAJCH* grow

from strength to strength. I am sure that the *SAJCH* family will support the new editor.

As a researcher who is finding the pull towards more concentrated academic work irresistible, I will always cherish my unique 'behind the scenes' experience of what happens to a manuscript after submission to a journal! I am indeed grateful, and pledge my long-term association with my baby *SAJCH*, even though it will be more in spirit than in flesh.



Nonhlanhla P Khumalo, MB ChB, FCDerm, PhD
Editor

Warm South African congratulations and welcome to
Professor Dankwart Wittenberg, editor of the latest edition of
the *Coovadia Textbook of Paediatrics* and new editor of *SAJCH*!